



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUE SCALE COLLECTORS

Chairman's Newsletter

Number 40. October, 1988.

A LANDMARK OCCASION.

The enclosed issue of EQM represents the handiwork of our new editor, Diana Crawforth, and fine handiwork it is, indeed. Diana's years of serving as associate editor obviously served her well, as this issue, in terms of both substance and style, is first rate. For reasons known to us all, this first effort on her own was an especially difficult one for Diana, and she came through with flying colors. We congratulate her and look forward to EQM continuing for many years to come in the tradition established by Michael Crawforth, to whom Diana has fittingly dedicated this issue.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.

The year seems to have flown (as do most years), and it's again time to pay your annual dues. Jan Macho, our diligent treasurer, will have the notices out by the end of October, and we implore, beseech and, yes, even beg you to pay your dues promptly and in no event later than our year-end deadline. Our society continues to rely on volunteer help, and we'll rely on your sense of fair play to avoid imposing an unnecessary collections chore on those who serve you.

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DIRECTORY UPDATE TIME ALSO.

Accompanying your dues notice will be a directory update card, sent you each year so that we're able to keep the member listings in our directory up to date. IF, and only IF, you have reason to change your listing, especially as it pertains to the number and description of scales in your collection, use the update card. If those vital statistics, along with your address, phone number and spouse's name, are correct in the current directory and not in need of change, there is no need to return the update card.

AND IT'S DIRECTOR UPDATE TIME AS WELL.

Every three years, according to our by-laws, we elect ISASC directors for a three-year term who, in turn, elect ISASC officers for a similar period. Enclosed with this newsletter is a ballot and a pre-addressed reply envelope. Please vote for the directors of your choice; you may cast just one vote for all seven nominees or, for whatever reason may impel you, vote for certain ones individually and not others. However you do it, please do it promptly and return the ballot to us prior to December 15, 1988. Following that date, the vote will be tallied, newly-elected directors will take (or continue in) office and, as their first official act, will elect officers for 1989-91. The results of all this will be dutifully reported to you in the January, 1989, Chairman's Newsletter.

YOUR FIRST NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION...

...should be to make definite plans to be part of our convention in San Francisco this coming April 28 to 30. It's a great time of year in one of America's great cities, and if past conventions are any indication, you'll have a great time with your fellow collectors. Co-chairmen Dale Reed and Bill Doniger tell us interest is already stirring, that the program is in the making, and that the initial mailing telling you all about it will reach you around the end of this year or the beginning of next.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD.

As many of you know, Tod Carley has served ISASC in so many ways that one hesitates to list them for fear of leaving something out. He has secured old, out-of-print scale catalogs and reproduced them in a most professional manner. He has reproduced back issues of EQM. He has handled the printing of much of our library offerings and the distribution of everything we offer. He has established contact with sources that provide us with rare books and documents. He has maintained meticulous records of all we've bought and sold, in what numbers, and at what cost and profit. He has inventoried and stored everything on our library list. And beyond all that, he has acted for years as our resident metrology authority, conscientiously answering the hundred-and-one letters we receive every year inquiring about scales of every make and description, inquiries asking that scales be identified, their history provided, their value assessed, their sale promoted, and everything in between.

All this is what Tod has been doing for many years, but cannot do anymore, due to his imminent move from a large home, which housed his collection and all of ISASC's belongings, to a small apartment. Believe it or not, he has found a buyer for his entire collection (a neighbor, apparently intent on becoming an instant BIG collector), but that didn't solve our problem, and we've had to mount a search for someone to assume Tod's ISASC responsibilities and his basement full of ISASC materials.

As luck would have it, we've succeeded, and while this report is mainly to thank Tod for his service to ISASC these past many years, it's also to tell you that member Steve Ginsberg, who, with wife Riva-Jill, so ably managed our Boston convention, has agreed to take on Tod's function. Tod tells us he's definitely keeping his membership and will be glad to continue handling the assorted (and sometimes bizarre) correspondence that comes our way. Our deep thanks to Tod for the superb job he's done in our behalf, and our thanks to Steve for his willingness to assume this most important responsibility.

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BOSTON CONVENTION ON TV.

Closed circuit video, that is. During our conclave in Boston, Joe Zelin, whose spouse, Elly, is a dealer known to many of us, saw fit to videotape much of the goings-on, including our silent auction, seminar, and evening camaraderie. Shortly after the convention he sent us a copy of the tape with the suggestion we offer it to members who were at the convention and would like to see themselves "live" on tv, and also to those who weren't with us in Boston and would like to enjoy the good times vicariously. So, if you're interested, send your request to us no later than November 15, and when they're all in, we'll set up a progressive mailing plan to route the videotape from one member to another. And thank you, Joe Zelin, for enabling us to keep the memories alive.

ISASC'S REPUTATION SPREADS.

Member Jerry Katz sent us an article from the August 5 issue of Antique and Auction News, in which a reader asked Harry Rinker, editor of Warman's Americana & Collectibles, if he could provide the address of John Chatillon & Sons, Inc., scale manufacturers. Harry's response dealt with the detective work he undertook to find the address (which he did), and went on to say that if all else failed, he would have sought the information from ISASC. It's nice to know our name rings a bell with the right people.

AND SO...

that's the gist of what's going on with ISASC. Our North American Chapter membership is at an all-time high of 231, with no end in sight. Our directors and officers are doing a sterling job, for which we tender our collective thanks. And if all goes well, 1989 should witness our continued growth and well-being, for which I extend my thanks to our entire membership. Margie joins me in wishing each of you a joyous, healthy and prosperous New Year!

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